maintaining the 54 small girls in the institution. I shall be prepared to consider any representation the committee of management may desire to place before Government on the matter.

MEMBER: At present they are leading a hand to mouth existence.

DEWAN: Yes, I know. In fact the only way they manage is by getting provisions on credit from shop-keepers.

Then you want a dispensary at Karamanai. The question of opening a dispensary at Karamanai was first started in 1905, when a medical conference was held proposing the closing of the old Taikad Hospital.

MEMBER: That is meant for women and children. But since then population has increased.

DEWAN: As a matter of fact, the Government had ordered the acquisition of a site and sanctioned the opening of a dispensary as early as 1907. But the Darbar Physician at the time reported that a dispensary was not necessary, as the local people can go to the Taikad or the Fort Hospital and that is why the idea of a dispensary at Karamanai proved to be not an accomplished fact. However, I shall ask the Administrative Board, Medical Services, to consider the question of a dispensary at Karamanai.

74. Needs of the Trivandrum taluk.

MR. N. MADHAVAN NAIR (*Member, Trivandrum taluk, Group II*) dealt with the following needs of the Trivandrum taluk: —

A road should be constructed from Mukkolakal in the Aramada Pakuthi to Trikannapuram Ghat in the Karamanai river. This was sanctioned by Government four years ago. There was already a wide foot-path there, which was being largely used by the people. The road if opened would prove a very easy short-cut from Nemom and the surrounding places to Trivandrum.

The Chakkai—Udayaniswaram road should be extended as far as Veli *kayal*. There was a trace from the Petta junction to the eastern part of the Veli *kayal* for a distance of about 3 miles, which passed through very densely populated villages. People had for a long time past been praying for the conversion of the trace into a cart road and the taluk irrigation committee had recommended the work to Government. Government however sanctioned only a portion of the road *viz.*, from Petta to Kadakampalli pakuthi cutchery, and this portion was already completed. The road should now be extended to the Veli *kayal*. The extension could be done for another mile without acquiring any lands. For the last mile also not much money would have to be spent as many land owners were willing to surrender lands free of cost.

The Chalai road from the Eastern Fort Gate to the Killiyar bridge should be widened, or in the alternative, a new road should be opened parallel to the Chalai road from the Pazhavangadi Fort Gate to the

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Killiyar bridge along the northern side of the Putharikandom *maidan*. This was necessary to relieve the great congestion of traffic on the Chalai road.

The sharp curve on the Mint Road near the Roman Catholic cemetery should be widened and straightened. Parapet walls should also be constructed along the northern and western sides of the road for about a furlong in front of the cemetery.

A wooden bridge at least should be constructed across the Thettiyar at Vettiode, so as to remove the present difficulties of traffic on the road from Vettiode near Kazhakuttam to Kattaikonam. Government had already spent some money on the repair of the road ; but without the bridge it would not be half so useful as it would otherwise be. The Public Works Department had estimated about Rs. 10,000 for a concrete bridge, which being too costly, the proposal had been dropped. A wooden bridge costing not more than 2 or 3 thousand rupees would, however, be enough to serve the purpose, as there was no motor traffic along the road.

Speedy arrangements should be made for preparing a town-planning scheme for Trivandrum. In a growing city like Trivandrum, the problem was likely to become more and more complicated with the advance of time.

The new dispensary proposed to be opened at Pothancode should be established at a central place like Kaniyapuram or some place between Kaniyapuram and Kazhakuttam. Pothancode was far away from the Trivandrum-Quilon main road. A dispensary established there will benefit only the south western pakuthies of Nedumangad and the Ayur pakuthi of the Trivandrum taluk. The object of the dispensary was, however, to serve the people in the western pakuthies of Trivandrum. This could be secured only by establishing it at Kaniyapuram or some place between Kaniyapuram and Kazhakuttam, in which case it would benefit not only the people of the inland pakuthies but also those on the coast.

The Pallipuram and Andurkonam pakuthies should be shifted from the jurisdiction of the Thonnakal Sub-registry office to that of the Kazhakuttam Sub-registry office. These pakuthies which were formerly under the jurisdiction of the Sub-registrar, Kazhakuttam, were added on to the jurisdiction of the Sub-registrar, Thonnakal, when a new office was opened there. But the Kazhakuttam office was nearer to these pakuthies than Thonnakal, and it was much more convenient to the people to go to Kazhakuttam than to Thonnakal. If it was feared that the restoration of these pakuthies to Kazhakuttam would make the work of that office heavier, the difficulty could be easily met by appointing an additional clerk in that office and reducing a clerk in the Thonnakal office. If, on the other hand, the reduction in the jurisdiction of the Thonnakal office would leave that office without sufficient work, a slight redistribution could be made in the jurisdictions of that office and of the Attingal office. These were devices commonly employed for

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standardising the work of Sub-registry offices and might very well be adopted in this case also. At all events, the convenience of the public should not be ignored in this matter.

A Second Class Magistrate's court should be established at Kazhakuttom. The District Magistrate, Trivandrum, had recorded his opinion against the proposal. But his opinion notwithstanding, the people of the western pakuthies of Trivandrum felt no small inconvenience in having to go to the Second Class Magistrate's court, Trivandrum town. Nor did the cases arising in these pakuthies contribute a small portion of the work of the Trivandrum Town Magistrate. More than 50 per cent. of the cases in that court came from these pakuthies. Hence it was absolutely necessary that they should be given a separate court.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Madhavan Nair, the Chief Engineer reports that he is making an estimate for the road already sanctioned from Mukkolakkal to Trikannapuram. He is also investigating the question of the new Chakkay-Udayiniswaram road as far as the Veli lake. The widening of the Chalai road presents many difficulties. But instead of widening it the Chief Engineer suggests that the road running parallel to the Chalai road by the side of the Cochar channel might easily be widened so as to relieve traffic on the Chalai road. He is going into that matter more fully. I quite agree with you that it is a very dangerous corner on the road near the Pattukunnu cemetery, and I shall ask the Chief Engineer to see whether he can find means of bettering the situation and making it less of a menace to life. He will also take up the question of parapet walls.

In the matter of a bridge at Vettiode you say that a wooden bridge would meet the requirements of the place. But the Chief Engineer thinks that a wooden bridge is just as costly as any other bridge and what is more the annual cost of maintenance will also be heavy. But the road here is now being improved and a substitute for a bridge in the form of a ramp will be provided at Thettiyar. Also it will make the crossing quite easy in the one or two days in the year when there will be high floods. For the time being we shall see how the ramp is able to meet the requirements. If it is found that this will not be enough, the question of a bridge will be looked into.

Also I am in complete agreement with you that Trivandrum will be all the better if there is systematic town planning. The municipality has an engineer on the staff who is supposed to examine and pass all buildings which require the municipality's previous approval on plans and estimates sent to them. But I find that nothing of the sort is done. Any sort of building, any sort of plan, is passed automatically without scrutiny or seeing whether it is fit to be an edifice befitting the town or not. It is essentially a matter for the municipality and I understand they are prepared to meet part of the cost of a town planning expert. I shall go into that matter very shortly.

I shall ask the Administrative Board, Medical Services, to consider your suggestion of a hospital at some place other than at Pothencode,

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The question of the pakuthies transferred from the Thonnakkal Sub-registry office is one that is giving the Director of Registration considerable trouble. But he is looking into the question and if he is able to find a solution that is acceptable to the people of both places, he will adopt it.

In regard to the Second Class Magistrate's Court at Kazhakkuttam, the District Magistrate is of opinion that there is no necessity for one. However, I will have the matter re-examined, and if it is found to be necessary, of course, it will be given.

75. Needs of the Chirayinkil taluk.

MR. KANDA KURUP KALI KURUP (*Member, Chirayinkil taluk, Group I*) said that among the needs of the Chirayinkil taluk, those in respect of agriculture deserved special consideration. Agriculture in the taluk suffered badly for want of proper water-supply. This was not because there were no rivers in the taluk, but because the water in the rivers could not be lifted to the fields which were on a higher level than the river-bed. It was not uncommon to see the river full of water, while the fields above were dry and parched up. The people did not know how to lift the river-water to the fields. The member would suggest that the officers of the Land Revenue, Agricultural and Public Works Departments, while touring the taluk, should meet the people and tell them how they could overcome this difficulty. Lands fit for paddy cultivation lying in reserved forests might also be released from the reserves and assigned for cultivation, the tax thereon being remitted for the first few years as a further inducement to the cultivators. It would be very useful to obtain monthly returns of lands so assigned from the officers concerned.

The Mamom river should be rendered more useful for purposes of irrigation. The vast extent of paddy fields in the Koonthallur, Kizhvallam and Edakode pakuthies depended upon this river for their water-supply. From very olden days several embankments and sluices were constructed in the river for this purpose. But many of these embankments collapsed in the great flood of 1058, particularly those at Kavanasseri and Karakamoola. The people of the locality were ever since praying for the reconstruction of these embankments. After some time they themselves rebuilt the Kavanasseri embankment in a way and used it. The Public Works Department took up the question some time back, the place was inspected and an estimate was prepared. But the work was not yet taken in hand. It should be treated as an "urgent" work and started at once.

So far as the Karakamoola embankment was concerned, it would be enough if a lock was constructed at the Chittattinkara embankment. The canal from there to Karakamoola should also be improved.

Funds were being provided every year in the P. W. D. Budget for the maintenance of the banks of the Mamom river. But no

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